

## NEW DRAMA BY A. W. PINERO

## "THE THUNDERBOLT" AT THE NEW THEATRE.

A Play of Family Life in Provincial England. Scolded Story Revealed by a Deceitful Will. It Remembers in Style the Later Plays of the Same Author.

The season at the New Theatre progresses last night to Chapter II. "The Thunderbolt" was only a preface when "The Thunderbolt" by Arthur W. Pinero, was acted for the first time in New York. "An episode in the history of a provincial family" is the author's subtitle to the drama, which is in four acts. One is laid in the library of a house in a provincial city of England, while the others take place in a drawing and dining room in a small town in the Midlands.

Mr. Pinero's latest drama in its general character recalls "His House in Order." It deals with the same unimaginative middle class types of English society. The social traits of his countrymen never appear to interest the dramatist to the extent of all other sources of inspiration. In witnessing the actions of these types of humanity one cannot help wondering what has become of that imagination which drew the Princess Pansy and Fay Zulueta, and that invention which recreated in "Trelawney of the Wells" a world of Victorian fancy and beauty. What a poor exchange for these delights are the four studies of English life with which the foremost dramatist of his country seems satisfied to occupy his genius now!

There is of course a family in "The Thunderbolt." The dramatist now studies English domestic character en bloc. There was a family too in "His House in Order," which in comparison with the Mortimeres of "Singlehampstead" seems in memory to have been a very human and inspiring family. In the first act of the play this family has gathered to learn what will become of the estate of a brother who is believed to have died intestate. So there is a chance that the millions earned by this dead man in his brewery may be divided among his three brothers and the sister, who by her marriage with an army officer has ascended many rungs higher on the social ladder than the rest of her family.

There are various grades of social importance represented, moreover, by the members of the family. One member who is a musician has aliened more than any of the others by marrying the daughter of a local grocer. She it is who destroys the will which the brewer had made. They are all glad that a "gentleman" since the brewery was turned into a stock company several years before his death. The dead body of their benefactor whom they had long idolized, because he founded a brewery, lies up stairs while the others, united in their search for his fortune, haggle in the parlour.

But they do not succeed in carrying out the plans they made for spending the money earned in the brewery and to be distributed to them in equal shares. The dead man's illegitimate daughter from school in Paris that their acquisition of the money is not to be so easy. It is after all brought out that the return of the named in the testament as legatee. Although one of the sisters-in-law denies that she destroyed the will and her husband's agents, she is the only one who is guilty of the crime. In order to save the reputation of her father's family and to avoid the suspicion of her husband's illegitimacy, she and her daughter agree to share the fortune with her disagreeable uncles and aunts. So the Mortimeres get what they can.

Mr. Pinero long ago proved his mastery at drawing just such narrow, ignoble characters as those that make up the dramatic personae in "The Thunderbolt." He is moreover, showed more than once his skill in building up the sort of stage story in which they can be best revealed. In a necessarily hurried review of the performance last night only certain impressions can be recorded now. It has never been more evident how gripping and intense the author can make even such a story, which is told in the play with dramatic interest reaches its height when the unfortunate *Thoddeus*, whose wife destroyed the will, breaks down under the examination of the lawyer and is compelled to admit that she and now he is guilty. There is also an element of extreme dramatic force in the preceding act in which he learns what his wife has done. This is the thunderbolt to him, and from this scene the drama gets its title.

Of course Mr. Pinero is dealing in this latest play with a situation that has almost passed into one of the conventions of the drama. From the time of the ancient drama the effect of wealth on human character has been a subject to which the playwrights. It has been supposed to be the magic wand that suddenly brings their true character to the light. The dramatic effect of this study of this theme in "The Thunderbolt" is the already long list of plays built up from this cornerstone.

From this dramatic viewpoint it may be fair to say that these latest creations of the great English dramatist possess little or no interest. In their story, rather than in their characters, and the prose of life about them and so little of its spirit and splendor they make little appeal to the imagination. One cannot resist the temptation to turn to the earlier days of drama when the characters were so much more than the requirements of the play. From that viewpoint it was admirable. A. E. Asquith acted the musician brother who is the character that figures in the play. There was scarcely a fault to find with the acting of the play. The numerous moments of the performance may receive their praise on some other night than Saturday.

## WANT TO SEE REAL BLUE BIRD.

Children of the Majestic Theatre Came Near Upsetting Afternoon Performance.

A half dozen "Blue Bird" children on the performance at the Majestic theatre yesterday afternoon. The youngsters had rehearsed in the morning and had lunch at a nearby restaurant. They had about finished when Irene Brown, the eight-year-old *Myrl* of the play, said that she had hunted the mountain bluebird so long it would be like to get a sight of one of the real bluebirds from which the fairy drama takes its name.

"I thought of that a long time ago," said Irene Brown, who takes the part of *Myrl* in the play, "and I've hunted and hunted through lots and lots of bird books, but the only thing I could find was an old bluejay."

114th St. to 125th St. Central Park.



## Women's \$3.00 "Standard" Shoe

Russia Calf, Gun Metal Calf, Black Kid and Patent Leather Button and Lace, and Black Satin and Black Velvet Button. Over 60 styles.

New Fall "Cammeyer" Style Book mailed free upon request.

America's Largest Shoe Store  
**CAMMEYER**  
STAMPED ON A SHOE  
MEANS STANDARD OF MERIT  
6th Avenue and 20th St.

## BOSTON ORCHESTRA MUSIC

MME. MELBA SOLOIST AT AFTERNOON CONCERT.

Gustave Strube's New "Puck" Overture Played for the First Time Here—The Audience One of Extraordinary Size The Performance Was Excellent.

The first afternoon concert of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, which took place yesterday at Carnegie Hall, was attended by an audience of extraordinary size. Every seat was occupied, the box holders crowded all the friends they could into their space, the standing room at the rear was uncomfortably packed and people also stood in the aisles. The programme consisted of Schumann's "Manfred" overture, Brahms's F major symphony, Mozart's "Dove song" air from the "Marriage of Figaro," a new overture called "Puck" by Strube, the "mad" scene from Amleto's "Hamlet" and Sibelius's tone poem "Finlandia."

It would be futile to seek in this array of musical delights for the secret of the unusual crowd. One thing more must be added, the name of the soloist, the magic name of Melba. That explains everything. Of course there is a large subscription for these afternoon concerts, and there would have been a "good house" in any case, but the addition of those who want merely to hear Melba made the difference between that and what is popularly christened a "recorder."

Mme. Melba was in splendid voice. Perhaps that single statement is all that is essential to an account of her contribution to the afternoon's proceedings, but the passing comment may be added that her delivery of the Mozart air was not one to give profound satisfaction to those who place a higher estimate on the composer than on a popular singer, nor was her singing of M. Thomas's setting of the fair Ophelia's illusionary waltz in its coloratura or its style. But these are matters which have never concerned Mme. Melba's admirers. She has frequently sung much better than she did yesterday without arousing any more enthusiasm. Her admirers appear to be content just to hear the sound of her voice and they thus often do her art injustice.

Gustave Strube, the composer of the new "Puck" overture, is, as some music lovers know, one of the first violinists of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, from which estate he has already graduated.

One of the most distinguished Boston makers of tone poems, Charles Martin Loeffler, New York has already heard several of Mr. Strube's compositions, one of the most notable of them being a fine concert piece for violin beautifully played here by that same Loeffler.

The new "Puck" overture was composed in the winter of 1908 and is dedicated to Conductor Max Fiedler. It is not an attempt to furnish a new prelude to Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream," but as the composer has said is only an endeavor to portray in tone some sylvan moods, with Puck as a frolic figure. The composition is in what is technically called the "first movement" form, the first movement here being that of the classic sonata. It is therefore prepared to satisfy the requirements of the orchestra who expect certain fashions to accompany the title "overture."

This is not a pretentious work and is therefore not profound. It is unaffectedly tuneful in theme, masterfully and agreeably developed and scored with a firm grasp of the idiom of the orchestra. It is an ingratiating composition in a single genre and will serve to please an audience than that which received it with so many evidences of favor yesterday. Mr. Strube was liberally applauded and several times obliged to acknowledge the approval of his hearers.

The performance of the Schumann overture was one of the most artistic in the history of the orchestra. It was entirely free from straining after foreign effects, from that eagerness to thrust upon Schumann's music a manner of expression which in the circumstances must always be abnormal. Schumann is not Strauss and there is no use trying to read him as if he were, yet this city has heard the effort made and has even seemed to think that it was wise.

The performance of the Brahms symphony was very beautiful. It was as clear, so rich in tonal quality, so natural in its treatment of the masses and so exquisitely balanced that it must have brought the keenest pleasure to all thoughtful hearers. The Boston Symphony Orchestra is in excellent condition this season. The new concertmaster, Anton Witke, seems to be the man for the place and it is a comfort to see that consummate artist Alwyn Schroeder once more at the head of the "cello."

Imported Ghina Dinner Sets of 100 Pieces from Carlsbad—Dishes very prettily decorated and finished with a gold border, at \$14.98

ALL CARS TRANSFER TO  
**Bloomingdale**  
LEX. to 34 59¢ to 60¢ 5r.

Trimmed Millinery 33 1/3% Off  
Our Annual Reduction Sale begins to-morrow, Monday. Hats regularly \$7.98 to \$75.00, now \$5.32 to \$50.00

## Bloomingdale Brothers Bought 125 Bales of

This Sale Will Begin To-morrow, Monday Morning.

that were held up on account of the express strike

We secured them at the heaviest price concessions ever heard of, but they were delivered to us too late on Saturday to enable us to prepare a descriptive list of makes, sizes and prices.

We promise you, however, that it will be a sale of Oriental Rugs that will be long remembered.

(Signed.)

None will be sold to dealers.

BLOOMINGDALE BROTHERS.

None sent C. O. D. or on approval.

## FURS You May Never See Such Great Opportunities Again

This is a remarkable sale of \$350,000 worth of Fur Sets, Fur and Fur lined Garments at half the usual prices.

Women's \$500 Seal Skin Coats, 50 Inches Long, at \$275

\$28.50 for Women's Pony Coats

\$49.50 for Hudson or Nearsal Coats

\$29.00 for Men's Fur Lined Coats

of beautiful French Dyed genuine Russian Pony skin, 50 inches long

for women fine French lustrous 50 inches long, worth \$85.00.

32 inches long, of fine black imported broadcloth, made in the very latest fashion, English box shape, with welled seams and handsomely lined with fine opossum.

FOX SETS—Animal scarfs and muffs made of the whole skins, at \$10.00

BLACK FOX SETS—Very newest models and exceedingly rich, regularly \$25.00, now \$15.00

BLACK WOLF SETS—Made of the whole animal, very handsome, \$15.00

BLACK LYNX SETS that are exceedingly stylish and rich, actually worth double this price \$24.75

BLACK POINTED FOX SETS—One of the smartest of the black furs this season and a big value \$39.00

AUSTRALIAN OPOSSUM SETS—One of the furs that has found high favor, this season, at half the ruling prices, \$59, \$49 & \$29

NATURAL RACCOON SETS—Fine quality, rich dark fur, \$39.00

MINK SETS—Really beautiful and in very fine condition, \$100, \$59 & \$49

ALASKA SABLE OR SKUNK SETS—Beautiful quality, cannot be found anywhere else for less than \$39, \$18 & \$12

RICH RED FOX SETS—Scarfs and muffs made of the whole animal skins, 3 skin sets, \$50 to \$100

PRIME SILVER CROSS FOX SETS—Made of the entire animal skins, 3 skin sets, worth \$200.00, at \$300.00

You may select red or silver fox skins from our assortment and the set will be made up for you.

RUSSIAN SABLE SETS—Consisting of 6 skins and setting, usually for \$50.00, at \$250.00

## OVERFLOW BUDGET OF MONDAY'S SPECIAL SALES

14 Kt. Solid Gold Waltham or Elgin Watches at \$15.00.

Women's Gun Metal and Solid Silver Watches at \$5.00

Boys' and Girls' lined or unlined Kid Gloves at 49c.

Women's 50c. Lisle Stockings at 17c.

\$25.00 Imported China Dinner Sets at \$14.98.

Children's \$1.50 Sweaters at 94c.

Real Irish Crochet Waists at \$12.98.

\$4.00 Marie Antoinette Lace Curtains at \$2.75 pair.

Women's Pile-down Kimonos at 88c.

Women's Flannellette Robes at 88c.

Women's Linen Finished Sheets at 49c.

Men's \$1.00 and \$2.00 Kid Gloves at 89c.

Women's fine Suede and Kid Gloves at \$1.00.

Welshbach Junior Lamp Outlets at 24c.

\$1.25 Junior Center Pieces at 69c.

Sterling Silver Carving Sets at \$5.00.

Rye Whiskey, per gallon, \$1.93.

California Sherry or Port Wine, per gallon, 65c.

Store of Certain Satisfaction—BLOOMINGDALES', Lex. to 3d Ave., 59th to 60th St.

## Y. M. H. A. DINNER.

Joseph H. Schiff Tells Young Men to Be Americans Proud of Jewish Faith.

The members of the Young Men's Hebrew Association last night gave a dinner at the Y. M. H. A. building in honor of the directors and benefactors of the association. Jacob H. Schiff was a guest and a speaker. It was he who was instrumental in founding the association in 1874 and he is also the donor of the present building at Ninety-second street and Lexington avenue.

At the dinner, Felix M. Warburg, president of the association and a son-in-law of Mr. Schiff, had purchased the four-story dwelling house on Ninety-second street that adjoined the present building and that he had presented it to the association. The cost of it, together with outlay necessary for alterations, will amount to \$85,000. This new building is to be devoted to the use of the senior members of the association.

Mr. Schiff complimented the members of the association for the way in which they had fulfilled the purpose of its founders and supporters, and then reviewed his own early connections with the association. He said that then there were only 70,000 Jews in New York, but now we are a mighty host, numbering over a million. He added that then and for the three decades following the Jews remained aliens. Turning to the 150 boys and girls here as the sons of these founders, he said: "Here you are, you are Americans, yet you are Americans first, that America is your home, and that you are Americans proud of your Jewish faith, and not merely Jews who accidentally live in America. I hope that every member of the association will be as faithful as the tree forever blessed."

The other speakers were Louis I. Haber, Felix Warburg, William Mitchell and Mrs. Esther Herrmann. Edgar Bromberger was toastmaster.

## FOUR FIREMEN OVERCOME

By Smoke While Fighting Small Fire in Tenement Cellar.

Four firemen of Engine Company 15 were overcome last night at a small fire in the cellar of a tenement house at 28 Canalside street. One of the men, Michael Kennedy, who is in St. Vincent's Hospital, is said to be in a bad way. Two other men, Lieut. Kendrick and Charles Murphy, were taken to the hospital, but were soon revived. John Feroni, the other man overcome, was resuscitated in a drug store.

When Capt. Howard Rush of Engine 15 arrived at the fire he sent the men into the cellar, where a lot of rubbish was burning. The captain went in with a new smoke helmet he wanted to try out and had not been in long when he lost sight of his men. Rushing back to the street, the captain got men from Truck 20 to go in and look for the four missing ones. It was some time before they found Kennedy.

The fire was confined to the cellar, and the damage did not exceed \$300.

## FOR A LAYMEN'S CAMPAIGN.

Bishop Berry of the Methodists to Spend Two Months Organizing It.

A great laymen's evangelistic campaign for the Methodist Church was outlined at yesterday afternoon's session of the general committee on home missions in session at Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, 104th street.

Bishop Berry, addressing the committee, announced his purpose of devoting the next two months to this work.

"We are facing a crisis spiritually," he said. "If this were an executive session I could give you figures regarding Methodist growth, or lack of growth, which would send every one of you to his knees before his Maker. I cannot give those figures, but I can tell you that the growth of the church is slow and that we must awaken the church to a realization of the situation."

"I am going away now to give two months to this work. We have planned a series of great laymen's meetings, beginning in the Hanson Place M. E. Church, Brooklyn, last week and extending over the country to Detroit. We have two young men assigned to each of the colleges for the same work."

Two thousand laymen are to meet under Bishop Berry's direction in Calvary M. E. Church, Manhattan, to organize for evangelistic work in New York city.

Another feature of the day's session of the committee was the plea of the Rev. W. B. Hollingshead of Portland, Ore., for aid for the Methodist churches in the Northwest.

"Here is the living church," said Dr. Hollingshead. "Here is where Methodism is making the advances. And yet we have 357 men facing all the perils and privations of the frontier with salaries averaging \$400."

Among those present at the session of the committee was Bishop M. C. Harris of Korea. Bishop Harris has had the closest relations with the highest Government officials of both Japan and Korea. He is to address a meeting of Japanese in their own language in Grace Church (Chapel Sunday evening.

## ASTOR CHAUFFEUR ARRESTED.

Wanted in New Jersey After Testifying in Civil Suit Here.

Christian Fricke, chauffeur for John Jacob Astor, was in the Tombs court yesterday charged with being a fugitive from justice from New Jersey, where he is accused of assault and battery.

In May, 1907, Fricke drove the Astor automobile upon a sidewalk in Jersey City and knocked down a little girl. He gave bail for trial, but was never notified to appear. He was a witness in the United States Circuit Court on Friday in the civil suit that grew out of the accident.

As he left the court room he was arrested on a Jersey warrant. Pending extradition he was paroled.

## Society of the Genesee.

The Society of the Genesee is to give its thirteenth annual dinner in the Plaza Hotel December 10. The guest of honor will be Robert H. Harris, vice-president of the New York Central Lines, who was formerly a resident of Rochester.

## CHILDREN OPEN THE HORSE SHOW

Continued from Fourth Page

Class 12, 15th hands, 2 years, Barnhill Farm, ridden by Mrs. Henry Webb. Second prize, \$25.00. (Continued on page 4.)

Class 13, 15th hands, 2 years, Barnhill Farm, ridden by Mrs. Henry Webb. Second prize, \$25.00. (Continued on page 4.)

Class 14, 15th hands, 2 years, Barnhill Farm, ridden by Mrs. Henry Webb. Second prize, \$25.00. (Continued on page 4.)

Class 15, 15th hands, 2 years, Barnhill Farm, ridden by Mrs. Henry Webb. Second prize, \$25.00. (Continued on page 4.)

Class 16, 15th hands, 2 years, Barnhill Farm, ridden by Mrs. Henry Webb. Second prize, \$25.00. (Continued on page 4.)

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Class 19, 15th hands, 2 years, Barnhill Farm, ridden by Mrs. Henry Webb. Second prize, \$25.00. (Continued on page 4.)

Class 20, 15th hands, 2 years, Barnhill Farm, ridden by Mrs. Henry Webb. Second prize, \$25.00. (Continued on page 4.)

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Class 41, 15th hands, 2 years, Barnhill Farm, ridden by Mrs. Henry Webb. Second prize, \$25.00. (Continued on page 4.)

Class 42, 15th hands, 2 years, Barnhill Farm, ridden by Mrs. Henry Webb. Second prize, \$25.00. (Continued on page 4.)

## BUILDING STRIKE NOW FEARED.

Old Row Between Carpenters and Sheet Metal Workers is On Again.

The old controversy between the union carpenters and the sheet metal workers has been revived, and last night it was said that the employers are getting ready for a general building strike.

Several years ago the question was referred to a special board of arbitration representing both sides, with Mayor Flannery, then Justice Governor as umpire. He decided in favor of the carpenters, as the doors and windows are attached to wooden planks. Mayor Flannery held that the work in question should be done by carpenters.

Within the last week the sheet metal workers have been ordering strikes where carpenters were doing this work, and carpenters have been ordering strikes where sheet metal workers were doing this work.

A meeting of the emergency committee of the Building Trades Employers' Association will be held on Monday at the Builders' Exchange, 40 West Thirty-second street, prepared to act in case a general strike is called in support of the metal workers. They got the right to this work through the decision of the American Federation of Labor at a convention held subsequent to the decision.

A general strike will likely be followed by a general lock-out of the unions.

## "77"

Humphreys' Seventy-Seven Breaks up Grip and Colds

As a Preventive.

"Seventy-seven" as a preventive, is most efficient; it preoccupies the system and prevents the invasion.

If you get caught in a cold storm with insufficient clothing or wrap, "Seventy-seven" is your protection.

If you get wet feet, "Seventy-seven" will keep you out of danger until you can get home and change.

A small vial of pleasant pellets, fits